



University of Tennessee, Knoxville

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7-2-1923

### Letter to Governor Austin Peay from President H.A. Morgan

H.A. Morgan

*University of Tennessee - Knoxville*

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July 2, 1923.

Governor Austin Peay,  
Executive Chamber,  
State Capitol,  
Nashville, Tennessee.

My dear Governor:

I have your letter of the 26th enclosing copy of anonymous statement with reference to purchase of coal for the University the original of which came to me. We receive anonymous statements something like this pretty nearly every time the University has to make purchases. If there was anything in the statement the man would have been glad, I think, to have signed his name. The whole thing is false from beginning to end. I have never paid any attention to anonymous statements because I have always felt that only cowards write them.

I am mighty glad to say to you that the University handles its contracts in a very business-like way.

We have found by experience that we must use a free burning coal such as is mined in the Jellico district. Our boilers are from five to ten years past their normal period. This year we requested bids from six or seven operators and dealers in this coal. Our experience in this matter has been the result of tests with various coals, chiefly the Brushy Mountain, Jellico and Coal Creek Coal. It has always been necessary for us to go back to the Jellico coal to obtain the required results owing to the condition of our power plant and the great demands made upon it. We only use between 2,500 and 3,000 tons per year and the lowest bid this year was an average of \$2.41-2/3 per ton f.o.b. mines.

Sincerely yours,

HAM/R